GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1234
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2000
PRODUCTION DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF PULSES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of pulses is required to be increased in view of big gap between demand and supply of pulses in the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have fixed any target for production of pulses in order to make the country self sufficient in pulses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the plans formulated to meet the requirement?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

a). & (b): A demand supply gap continues to exist for increasing the production of pulses, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is underimplementation in 27 States/U.Ts covering 305 districts. The scheme envisages financial assistance to the States for production and distribution of certified seeds, seed minikits, rhyzobium culture, sprinkler sets and improved farm implements etc. In addition, field demonstration and farmers training are also being organised for the transfer of improved production and protection technologies to the farmer's field for increasing the production of pulses in the country.

(c)& (d) The Planning Commission has fixed a production target of pulses for the IX Plan i.e2001-2002 at 16.5 million tonnes for making the country self-sufficient in pulses.

An Action Plan has also been formulated for increasing the production of pulses. The major thrust will be to increase the productivity of pulses through the following:

(i) use of improved seeds of high yielding varieties;

(ii) Application of sulphur;

(iii) Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management and application of NPV for control of Pod borer in Arhar and Gram

(iv) Use of sprinkler irrigation.